CLAIMS:

1. An implantable fluid management device, comprising:

an elongate catheter having a proximal end, a distal end, and a first inner lumen extending therethrough;

a sensor disposed at a distal portion of the catheter;

at least one wire having a distal end coupled to the sensor and having a proximal end that is adapted to mate to an external component for powering and/or communicating with the sensor, the at least one wire extending along a length of the catheter such that the at least one wire is in fluid isolation from the inner lumen of the catheter, and the at least one wire being separable from a proximal portion of the catheter such that the length of the catheter is selectively adjustable.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the at least one wire is disposed within a second lumen that is isolated from the first lumen.

3. The device of claim 2, further comprising a slit extending through an outer wall of the catheter into the second lumen, the slit extending along at least a portion of a length of the catheter from the proximal end thereof such that a portion of the at least one wire can be at least partially removed from the catheter through the slit to allow the length of the catheter to selectively adjusted.

4. The device of claim 2, wherein the first lumen has a diameter that is greater than a diameter of the second lumen.

5. The device of claim 2, wherein the second lumen is formed within an invagination of the outer wall of the catheter extending within the first lumen.

6. The device of claim 1, further comprising a slit extending through an outer wall of the catheter along at least a portion of a length of the catheter from the proximal end thereof such

that a portion of the at least one wire can be at least partially removed from the catheter through the slit to allow the length of the catheter to selectively adjusted.

7. The device of claim 6, wherein the slit extends along a distance less than the length of the catheter.

8. The device of claim 6, wherein the slit extends along less than about one half of the length of the catheter.

9. The device of claim 6, wherein the slit is substantially fluid impermeable in a closed position.

10. The device of claim 6, wherein the catheter is made from a material that is self-sealing.

11. The device of claim 6, wherein the at least one wire is disposed within a second lumen that is isolated from the first lumen and the slit extends into the second lumen.

12. The device of claim 1, wherein the at least one wire is disposed within a secondary catheter that is coupled to the catheter and that can be peeled apart from the catheter to allow the length of the catheter to be selectively adjustable, independent of the length of the secondary catheter.

13. The device of claim 1, wherein the catheter is formed from a flexible, biocompatible polymer.

14. The device of claim 1, wherein the catheter is formed from a polymer selected from the group consisting of silicones, silicone-like materials, and polyurethanes.

15. The device of claim 1, wherein the sensor is disposed with a wall of the catheter such that the sensor is adapted to sense conditions adjacent to the catheter.

16. The device of claim 1, wherein the sensor is a pressure sensor.

17. The device of claim 1, wherein the sensor has a diameter that is equal to or less than about 3 mm.

18. An implantable fluid management device, comprising:

an elongate catheter having a proximal end, a distal end, and first and second inner lumens extending therethrough and isolated from one another;

a sensor disposed at a distal portion of the catheter;

at least one wire extending through the second lumen in the catheter and having a distal end coupled to the sensor and a proximal end adapted to mate to an external antenna; and

a slit extending through an outer wall of the catheter into the second lumen along at least a portion of a length thereof such that a portion of the at least one wire can be at least partially removed from the catheter through the slit to allow the length of the catheter to be selectively adjustable.

19. The device of claim 18, wherein the first lumen has a diameter that is greater than a diameter of the second lumen.

20. The device of claim 18, wherein the second lumen is formed within an invagination of the outer wall of the catheter extending within the first lumen.

21. The device of claim 18, wherein the slit extends along a distance less than the length of the catheter.

22. The device of claim 18, wherein the slit extends along less than about one half of the length of the catheter.

23. The device of claim 18, wherein the slit is substantially fluid impermeable in a closed position.

24. The device of claim 18, wherein the catheter is made from a material that is self-sealing.

25. The device of claim 18, wherein the catheter is formed from a flexible, biocompatible polymer.

26. The device of claim 18, wherein the sensor is disposed with a wall of the catheter such that the sensor is adapted to sense conditions present around the catheter.

27. The device of claim 18, wherein the sensor is a pressure sensor.

28. A method for implanting a ventricular catheter, comprising:

providing an elongate catheter having a first lumen extending therethrough and including

a sensor disposed at distal portion of the catheter, and

at least one wire extending from the sensor and coupled to the catheter such that the at least one wire is in fluid isolation from the first lumen, the at least one wire being separable from at least a proximal portion of the catheter such that a length of the catheter is selectively adjustable;

implanting the catheter in a patient's ventricles such that a proximal end of the catheter is adapted to be connected to an implantable valve device;

separating a portion of the at least one wire from the catheter; and

cutting the catheter to a desired length at a location where the wire is removed from the catheter.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of connecting the cut end of the catheter to an implantable valve device.

30. The method of claim 28, wherein the at least one wire is disposed within a second lumen that is in fluid isolation from the first lumen.

31. The method of claim 28, further comprising a slit extending through an outer wall of the catheter along at least a portion of a length of the catheter from the proximal end thereof such that a portion of the at least one wire can be at least partially removed from the catheter through the slit to allow the length of the catheter to selectively adjusted.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the slit extends along a distance less than the length of the catheter.

33. The method of claim 31, wherein the slit extends along less than about one half of the length of the catheter.

34. The method of claim 31, wherein the slit is substantially fluid impermeable in a closed position.

35. The method of claim 28, wherein the sensor is a pressure sensor.